WSBIS Working Team Meeting 5/7/2014

Present: George, Steve, Roman, Rich, Barbara, Margaret, Larry (Margaret & Larry via phone)

1. It was agreed that Local Programs (LP) needs to provide a list on non-NBI fields that they choose to maintain in the database. (There was not a deadline given.)

2. George gave a demo of the BPO BridgeWorks, showing how clicking on a non-BMS field name would open up the Coding Guide to the appropriate spot. BPO plans to expand this to include BMS elements, and eliminate the current BMS tooltips. Everyone liked this feature.

3. It was proposed that there be three coding guides (appendices to the WSBIM Chapter 2):

   o   NBI fields, for use by both state and local agency inspectors
   o   Non-NBI fields, for use by state inspectors
   o   Non-NBI fields, for use by local agency inspectors

4. The spreadsheet Bridge Inventory Business and Element Data Address System - Conceptual was discussed.
George went over the range of code numbers that are currently being used. It was commented that the numbers available in the pull-down for the Notes are a mix of BMS, NBI and Non-NBI numbers. If we used a block of numbers for different groups – LP Non-NBI, State Non-NBI, etc. – then they would be better organized in the list. Additionally, BPO and LP could add and remove fields without disturbing the other.
Steve also said that if we go with three separate coding guides, there would need to be a range of numbers unique to each coding guide or the application wouldn't be able to know which one to link to.

Margaret asked, if we do change the item numbers, would the inspector need to manually move the data into the new numbered fields. No, it would not be the inspectors' responsibility, it would be done in some automated fashion.

It was discussed how to maintain legacy data.

George proposed that the team think about coding guides and business addresses, and it would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

5.   National Bridge Elements (NBE) will be included in the April 1, 2015 submittal.
There will be one translator for elements in the BridgeReporting database (BRD), translating WSDOT BMS elements into NBE. Any local bridges that carry the NHS will need to be coded with WSDOT BMS elements for that submittal.
However, FHWA will ~~not~~ only require NBE be submitted for bridges that have ~~not~~ been inspected after October 1, 2014. BPO intends to submit NBE data for all reportable bridges. For local bridges, we can add a filter to the creation of the NBE submittal, to only pull for bridges that are on the NHS and with Routine inspection dates of 10/1/2014 or later. LP will need to decide if we are going to use this filter or not.

DeWayne Wilson is firm that all BMS elements be decided upon by him, with no variations. He will not allow LP to add elements, they will need to stick to the WSDOT elements.

After the merge of the BPO and LP database and applications, LP will have the option of using either BMS elements, NBE or both within the application. The only stipulation is that of they choose to have elements available, each individual bridge record must only contain one or the other. (There will be some restriction in the application to ensure this.) LP may choose to limit this further – agency by agency, PM by PM, or globally to all local agencies.

6. Establishing data standards for enumerated data. The team looked over the enumerated data spreadsheets provided by George. George suggested that, once the team has looked over these lists and decided on any significant changes, the majority of the discrepancies will be addressed and decided on between Larry and Barbara.

There are two areas that will require thorough review/discussion by the team: load rating fields and proposed improvement fields.

George's document: Draft automated Population of Proposed Improvement fields in BridgeWorks, was discussed. All agreed that the current proposed improvement calculations needed to be reworked. The proposed changes looked good but weren't formally adopted. Suggested: keep the 'calculate' flag, with a default of 'Y'. And use the default Work Type of 35 (rehabilitation). These fields could be edited.

7. Translated NBI fields. Fields that WSDOT/LP maintains enumerated data that must be translated for submittal to the NBI. Example: the median code WB72-91.
BPO has added some options to the list of owner codes. Margaret said that King County would like to have additional county codes to use.
George will provide a list of codes that are currently translated for the NBI submittal. This topic will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Next two meetings scheduled for May 28 and June 12.